

## Texas cadets serve at annual holiday dinner

By Cadet Angel Martinez  
Robert E. Lee High School

SAN ANTONIO, Texas—The Robert E. Lee High School JROTC Volunteer Battalion recently participated in the annual Raul Jimenez Thanksgiving Dinner.

The mission of the dinner is to help those who can't afford to have a traditional Thanksgiving meal – not only the homeless, but also those who just don't have enough money to make dinner for their families.

The Raul Jimenez Dinner is held at the Convention Center in downtown San Antonio and has been serving people for many years. This was the 19th year the battalion provided the color guard for the opening ceremony.

The people who attend this event have fun and enjoy the food and dancing. We bring about 70 enthusiastic cadets each year.

See **Dinner**, Page 4



### Head Over Heels

Army National Guardsman and Cadet Theresa Giorno, University of Wisconsin-Madison, sets the bar high. Story on Page 3.

## ND battalion works crowd at Presidential speech

### Field Report

North Dakota State University

Cadets of the Bison Battalion at North Dakota State University had the privilege of ushering a speaking engagement for President George W. Bush here in February. Cadets said they were thrilled at the opportunity to hear and see our nation's President in person. Nearby Fargo, N.D., was President Bush's first stop on a campaign following his State of the Union Address the night before.

Members of the Bison Battalion worked diligently with White House staff, Secret Service, local authorities, and university officials to ensure a safe and controlled visit to North Dakota State University for President Bush. The President thanked North Dakota State University President, Joseph Chapman, before a crowd of 7,500 for the gracious support from the university.

This was a special event for the cadets from NDSU



**President Bush addresses a crowd at North Dakota State University in February. cadets worked with the U.S. Secret Service to usher the audience.**

and the University of North Dakota. It's not often that you get to be in the same room with the President of the United States, and it certainly means the world to these young cadets who are preparing to be our nation's future Army leaders.

University officials immediately thought of the ROTC program for worthy and viable volunteers to assist with the President's visit. Every cadet jumped at the chance to volunteer their service for this auspicious occasion. The cadets looked sharp in their Class A uniforms and greeted the 7,500 guests with courtesy and professionalism.

NDSU was represented by one officers, two enlisted Soldiers, and 19 cadets and the UND provided one officer and five cadets to participate in this once-in a-lifetime opportunity. They were genuinely excited about seeing President Bush – and having the opportunity to serve with his massive entourage, although the time was brief.

Cadet Jarrod Simek got to shake the President's hand after his speech, which he said made his day.

Having the spot light on Fargo, and especially on NDSU was a great experience. The University, the Governor's staff, and the White House staff say they were impressed with the Bison Battalion cadets.

By Steven Corbett  
Commander

We are beginning to close out another school year. While academic years “wind down,” the lives of cadre and cadets certainly do not.

Thousands of Senior Program cadets are in the final stages of preparation for attending Warrior Forge 2005; two thousand more are graduating, commissioning and entering the service of our Nation; thousands of our Junior ROTC cadets are graduating from High School and entering college, the work force or the military.

For our active-duty cadre, hundreds are departing to new assignments in the Army or retiring. Among our contract and active Guard/Reserve cadre, dozens are preparing to mobilize and serve in the Global War



on Terrorism.

Although all of these major changes are cycles in the lifespan of the Army, they are enormous personal events in the individual lives of those involved.

Each is a “life-changing event,” and serves to remind us all that the Army truly is people – not tanks, rifles, unit

symbols – but people. Each of these folks leaves behind some legacy of their time among us, as well as the potential for significant contributions in both their own futures and our future as a Nation.

We are not simply “turning off” a school year. As these thousands of our comrades depart, they comprise another level of change and growth for all of us. Much like the growth rings on a tree, each successive layer of successful people strengthens us, anchors us more fully, and contributes to America and especially Army ROTC.

I wish every one of our alumni, whether they are Senior Cadets, Junior Cadets, or cadre my gratitude for their service and sacrifices. I sincerely believe that everyone who leaves the ROTC Program leaves us as a better person, and leaves us a better

organization for their hard work and commitment.

Another aspect of these departures is the growth and challenge it brings to those left behind. Juniors in high school and colleges will be stepping up into leadership positions. New cadre members will be arriving – many of them directly from service in combat and all of us will earn more, grow more and become better people through this metamorphosis.

The Army isn’t really about change – it is about evolution. We evolve as an institution because of hard work, dedication and cumulative growth, season after season and year after year. So, with some sadness, I wish our departing comrades farewell and good luck. I welcome our new members and newest leaders with the confidence that you will do well.

## ASU cadet earns school-wide recognition

Field Report  
Arizona State University

An Arizona State University cadet earned the school’s “Sun Devil Star” award. Cadet Jeremy Gumeringer, is an MS III cadet majoring in Justice Studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

What is a Sun Devil Star? It is an undergraduate student at ASU who has exemplified one or all of the following characteristics: makes a positive contribution to the ASU community; demonstrates leadership skills; and serves as a role model to other Sun Devils.

The Sun Devil Stars ceremony is held each spring semester and recognizes and celebrates the contributions of ASU students who are not necessarily in a visible leadership role, but who have made a positive impact on the ASU community as leaders and role models.

All students who are nominated get recognized. Students are eligible to receive the Sun Devil Star award only once.



Cadet Jeremy Gumeringer

Nomination letters are sent to each academic college, to student affairs, and to other ASU offices for faculty, administrators and staff to have the opportunity to recognize students in their departments.

Gumeringer has a 3.18 grade-point average, and was recently awarded a two-year Army ROTC scholarship.

He works full-time to cover his other educational costs.

He is a very effective and dedicated leader in the Sun Devil Battalion, officials say, and is always looking for ways to excel. His branch preference is Air Defense and he said he is looking forward to attending Warrior Forge at Fort Lewis this summer.

### RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE

#### University of Idaho

Lars Ostervold, assistant professor of military science, was promoted to major March 1.

### RESERVE THIS EMPTY SPACE!

To have your people recognized in the *Goldbar Leader*, contact the editor at (253) 967-7473 or via e-mail at [jeremy.obryan@us.army.mil](mailto:jeremy.obryan@us.army.mil).



Col. Steven R. Corbett

Commander

Western Region, U.S Army Cadet Command

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Cadet Theresa Giorno

## Track athlete looks to earn the gold – gold bar, that is

By 2nd Lt. Daniel Toshner  
University of Wisconsin – Madison

Some cadets may find it difficult to balance academics and ROTC, but Cadet Theresa Giorno from the University of Wisconsin–Madison also has athletics to worry about. She is a high jumper on the Badger women's track team.

Giorno attended high school in Whitewater, Wis., and placed in the top three in the State Division II High School Track Championships all four years, winning state her junior year in high school. She was also president of her local 4-H chapter.

Theresa entered ROTC by going through the Leader's Training Course after her sophomore year of college. She also enlisted in the WI Army National Guard to gain additional leadership experience as an SMP Cadet.

Giorno is currently in her MS III year at UW–Madison. In addition to morning PT, military science classes, and leadership labs, she about three to four hours per day the entire school year training for track events. She also travels around the country with the track team to compete on the weekends from January through May.

She recently placed ninth at the Big Ten Conference Indoor Track Championships in Ann Arbor, Mich. When she is not competing, Giorno attends drill with Headquarters, Headquarters Battalion, 57th Field Artillery Brigade, in Milwaukee.

She also occupies the position of Unit Historian at the UW-Madison ROTC Battalion.

Giorno will attend the Leadership Development and Assessment Course at Fort Lewis this summer. She will graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in History degree in May 2006 and plans to pursue a career as a Chaplain in the Army Reserve.

# Wildcats earn German proficiency badge

By Cadet Adam Kaplan  
University of Arizona

The Wildcat Battalion cadets participated in the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge this semester. The GAFPB is an official U.S. Army-recognized foreign-service award.

The test was observed and certified by Lt. Col. Helmut Schäfer and Sergeant Maj. Juergen Stark of the German Army; both are stationed at Fort Huachuca Arizona. The test has three levels of merit based on the level of fitness and proficiency: gold, silver and bronze. There are different qualifications for males and females and different qualifications for age groups as well. The test consists of track and field events, a forced rucksack march, pistol qualification and a written first-aid examination.

The most grueling event is the forced road march. For the gold medal, cadets must march 18.7 miles with a 22-pound rucksack in under five hours. Cadet Captain Paul Kahn set the pace, finishing in an astonishing 3 hours, 5 minutes.

All track and field events were conducted at Pima Community College, a University of Arizona partnership school. Cadets had to accomplish either the high or long jump in order to pass. Other events included a shot-put throw, 100-, 400, and 1,000-meter runs. Cadet Michael Polk threw the shot-put the farthest, for a distance of 33 feet, establishing the battalion record.



U.S. Army Photo by Cadet Adam Kaplan

**Cadet Adam Dyet participates in the grueling German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge swimming competition.**

The swimming event took place at the University of Arizona Student Recreation Center. This event included: 100-, 200-, and 1,000-meter swims. Cadets had to swim the thousand-meter event in under 26 minutes, a difficult task for even the best of swimmers. The swimming events had the honor of being observed by the 14th ROTC Golden Bear Brigade Sergeant Major James Forest.

The pistol qualification was held at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson, Ariz. For pistol qualification, cadets are given a 9mm pistol and five rounds of ammunition. Cadets must hit the target with all five rounds from

25 meters for gold, four rounds for silver and three rounds for bronze.

The first-aid examination consists of five true/false questions and five multiple-choice questions. Cadets must answer all questions correctly for gold, 90 percent for silver, and 80 percent for bronze.

The GAFPB competition is a great training and team building opportunity for both the cadets and cadre. Just as importantly, it is a permanent award that stays with the cadets throughout their Army career. Those who earned the coveted award will have it presented to them by the German Army observers at the Spring 2005 Wildcat Battalion Dining Out.

## 'Bama bedrock retires after 25 years of DoD service

Field Report  
University of Alabama

A fixture of 'Bama's ROTC program will retire May 31. Carol Hinkle, human resources specialist here, has given nearly 25 years of dedicated service to the federal government.

Hinkle has spent the past 20 consecutive years in the Army ROTC department at the University of Alabama. During this time, she has truly been a bedrock within the

Crimson Tide Battalion.

Hinkle has successfully worked for seven different professors of military science. Her timely advice and guidance on all administrative issues and cadet actions were absolutely critical in the success of each and every one of them.

She trained and served with 96 different cadre members assigned to Bama's Army ROTC department.



Carol Hinkle

She was instrumental in assembling and preparing over 500 accessions packets, and she also successfully prepared the commissioning packets and witnessed the individual commissioning ceremonies of 491 army officers, to include the current PMS.

Carol also served as a mentor to thousands of university students. Needless to say, she will be missed.

**What did your battalion do today? Get recognized!**

**Call the Goldbar Leader editor at (253) 967-7473.**





## Dinner, from Page 1

"It is a rewarding and wonderful experience," said Cadet Eden Valles. "The cadets feel they benefit from the experience by making a difference in people's lives and putting Thanksgiving cheer on everybody's plates."

As volunteers, the cadets perform an assortment of jobs. Some escort the elderly to their seats, which gives cadets a chance to truly connect with older generations. Some help by serving food and beverages. Serving the dinner is an excellent way to socialize with people from all walks of life in San Antonio.

"It is an enjoyable event that gives back to the community," said Cadet Becky Westmoreland. "The cadets work hard, and are willing to sacrifice their own Thanksgiving Day to help make someone else's memorable."

The cadets also have a chance to enjoy dancing later in the day.

"We're all rewarded for our hard work when we see people's faces light up. Most of us really get into the spirit with the people," Cadet Albert Gonzales explained.

The ultimate reward for these cadets is being able to show the guests a good time and see them laugh. "I feel like I really made someone's day when they tell me, 'God Bless you,'" said Cadet Athena Garcia. "I love the people here so much, I'm going to come back even after I graduate."

## Fitness, fundraising share priority at Ben Franklin HS

### Field Report

Benjamin Franklin High School

LOS ANGELES – Cadets and cadre from the Panther Battalion at Benjamin Franklin High School here organized a walk/run-a-thon which raised more than \$700 for victims of the tsunami that struck Southern Asia in December.

Cadet Omar Marrufo and Sgt. 1st Class Jimmy Ramirez, the school's JROTC instructor, planned the event with the help of the rest of the battalion.

"This was a great way to connect our physical fitness with a fundraiser," Ramirez said.

Cadets each got a pledge sheet and had two weeks to get pledges for the number of ¼-mile laps they'd go around the school's track.

Cadets from the battalion personally delivered a check to Dennis Keegan, director of the American Red Cross's major gifts division, in the amount of \$715.

"The event was a great success and all the cadets had a positive feeling about what they accomplished," Marrufo said. "Our community doesn't just end where we live. It extends as far as we can reach."

# Hanks HS cadets chronicle vet history

### Field Report

Hanks High School

EL PASO, Texas – For their service learning project this year, the JROTC cadets of the Knight Battalion at Hanks High School here decided to get involved in a very special endeavor called the Veterans' History Project. This project is designed to capture the history of America's veterans from all timeframes and branches of the military service.

The cadets conduct videotaped interviews and then submit the tapes and other personal memoirs to the Library of Congress.

The cadets plan to interview 100 veterans before the project's end; so far 20 interviews have been conducted, and at least five of those subjects were of World War II veterans.

"I've really learned a lot through these interviews about sacrifice and patriotism," said Cadet Gregory Mason, a senior who is already a member of the U.S. Army Reserves.

"One gentleman served when horses were still used by the Cavalry," Mason said. "He brought in his awards, which included a Silver Star, Bronze Star and two Purple Hearts."

Brittney Goldstein, a cadet First Sergeant, asked her grandfather, Gregory Yakobian, to come in and recount his Vietnam war experiences.

"It's a great way to learn about our past and preserve our history," said the 16-year-old sophomore.

After an article appeared in the *El Paso Times* regarding the project, a representative from the Library of Congress called the cadets to congratulate them on their efforts and encouraged them to continue to seek out more veterans.



Courtesy Photo

**Cadet Richard Armendariz, Hanks HS JROTC, interviews a World War II veteran about his service and his life. The battalion will interview more than 100 veterans; the finished history project will reside at the Library of Congress.**

"I was thrilled that the Library of Congress called us," said Cadet Stacy Norman. "Once we hosted a NASA astronaut and he is flying our Hanks JROTC T-shirt in space. Now, Hanks JROTC is known nationally and in outer space."

"I am amazed at how well the cadets interact with these veterans," said retired Capt. Eileen Williams, the senior Army instructor for Hanks JROTC. "One 93-year-old gentleman came in with newspaper articles, awards and even his wedding picture. We were all moved to tears. You can see the mutual respect and admiration between the cadets and the veterans during the interview process."

"We know this is a huge undertaking – to interview 100 veterans," said Cadet Awbrey Lowe, "But we can do it."

## Hot Spring Army JROTC: A Dynasty in the Making

### By Cadet Hiram Ramirez

Albuquerque High School

ALBUQUERQUE – Just as the New England Patriots have won three Super Bowls in four years, Hot Springs High School Army JROTC has won three State Flag Football Championships in a row.

On Feb. 5, the Bulldog Battalion hosted the third annual JROTC State Flag Football "Super Bowl" Tournament.

Traditionally held the day before the NFL Super Bowl, this year's tournament included 14 teams from around New Mexico. The double elimination tournament began at 8 a.m. and ended at 6 p.m.

Hot Springs Army JROTC got off to a fast start by winning the first three games in the winner's bracket. Their eventual opponent in the winner's bracket, Rio Rancho Marine Corps JROTC, beat a tough La Cueva Marine Corps JROTC team and a tough West Mesa Navy



Courtesy Photo

**A Manzano High School Navy JROTC players attempts to advance the ball past Bloomfield High School Army JROTC defenders.**

JROTC team to get to the finals.

As a huge crowd looked on, Hot Springs Army JROTC edged out Rio Rancho Marine Corps JROTC for the championship.

"We're grateful for the win," said Hot Springs Senior Army instructor, Maj. Miguel Apodaca. "Every year the competition keeps getting tougher and tougher."



# CWU tackles wicked-cold winter wonderland

By Capt. Tyler Oxley

Central Washington University

The cadets of the Central Washington University Wildcat Battalion braved the snow, ice and frigid cold of central Washington during their winter survival lab held in February. The lab consisted of a march along the snow and ice covered Umtanum Creek trail to the base of Umtanum Falls. The falls trailhead is located 15 miles south of the CWU campus making it an ideal destination for cadet training.

"This was great, a good break from the battle drills that we usually do during the weekly lab" said Cadet Wyatt Ottmar.

Cadet Ben Souriall added, "The best part of doing this is just getting away from campus, out in the woods, and into the snow."

The highlight of the lab was the descent to the base of the falls that required cadets to traverse an icy crevasse and over 100 meters of emplaced hand lines that guided the cadets down. The hand lines proved essential in making the way down and greatly assisted on the ascent back up to the trail above.

"I really liked the ropes, I've



U.S. Army photo by Capt. Tyler Oxley

**Cadet Matthew Hovde helps Cadet Joshua Rodgers during a leg of the descent as the CWU Wildcat Battalion conducted their winter lab at frozen Umtanum Falls in central Washington.**

never done anything like this – at least since basic training," said Cadet Ryan Jacobson.

"This was fun, well put together,

the best part was going down to the bottom of the falls, across the ropes, this is definitely worth doing again – totally," added Cadet David Celski.

Cadet Adam Nixon, a graduate of the Mountain Warfare School in Jericho, Vt., used his climbing expertise to emplace hand lines and post safeties along the route.

"At first glance I had some real doubts that we could put the hand lines in, across a safe route that would allow everyone to make it to the base of the falls. Once the lines were in, I was confident that it would be fine."

The lab was the culmination of several weeks of planning. During the initial reconnaissance in late January, much of the snow had melted, leaving an icy but mostly clear trail. Snow fell and the temperature dropped the weekend prior to the lab, drastically changing conditions along the route.

Due to the compacted snow and ice, cadets used traction devices on their boots. Helmets were a mandatory safety item during the descent.

"When I first saw how steep it was and the ropes, I had some doubts about making it," said Cadet Erik Nystrom, "but once I started moving it was OK, this was a real confidence builder."

## Fayetteville cadre donate own arms to science, nurse training

Field Report

University of Arkansas-Fayetteville

For the second year in a row, students at the University of Arkansas' Eleanor Mann School of Nursing got to "stick it" to cadre members of the Razorback Brigade – literally. During the month of February, junior nursing students learn how to insert intravenous (IV) needles during their labs.

After practicing on dummy arms and bananas, instructors Bettie Miller and Lauren Willis determined the students were ready for live patients.

Miller, having remembered that the Army ROTC cadre served as patients last year, called and asked Maj. Chuck Adkins, the battalion's recruiting operations officer, if they would volunteer again. Adkins said he couldn't wait until the next staff call to make the announcement to his fellow cadre.

It was hard to tell who was more nervous, the students or the cadre. After a safety briefing by Miller and Willis, the poke, prod, stab and jab got underway. As

the students gained confidence, the cadre were able to talk to the nursing students about the Army ROTC Nurse Program, Nurse Summer Training Program, and the Army Nurse Corps.

This year's "Pin Cushion" Award goes to Staff Sgt. Kevin Stevens, MS-I Instructor, who got stuck six times, two of them simultaneously in each arm.

As Adkins was about to get stuck, his student's cell phone rang. She answered. Turns out the student, Leslie Mendenhall, is a sorority sister of Adkins' daughter, Jennifer, who called to see if Mendenhall had stuck her dad yet.

Other cadre members who participated were Peggy McClellan, Human Resources Manager; Master Sgt. Jeffery Prude, NCO in charge and MS-II Instructor, Lt. Col. Richard Mayes, assistant professor of military science and MS-III instructor; Capt. Kevin Bradley, training and operations officer.

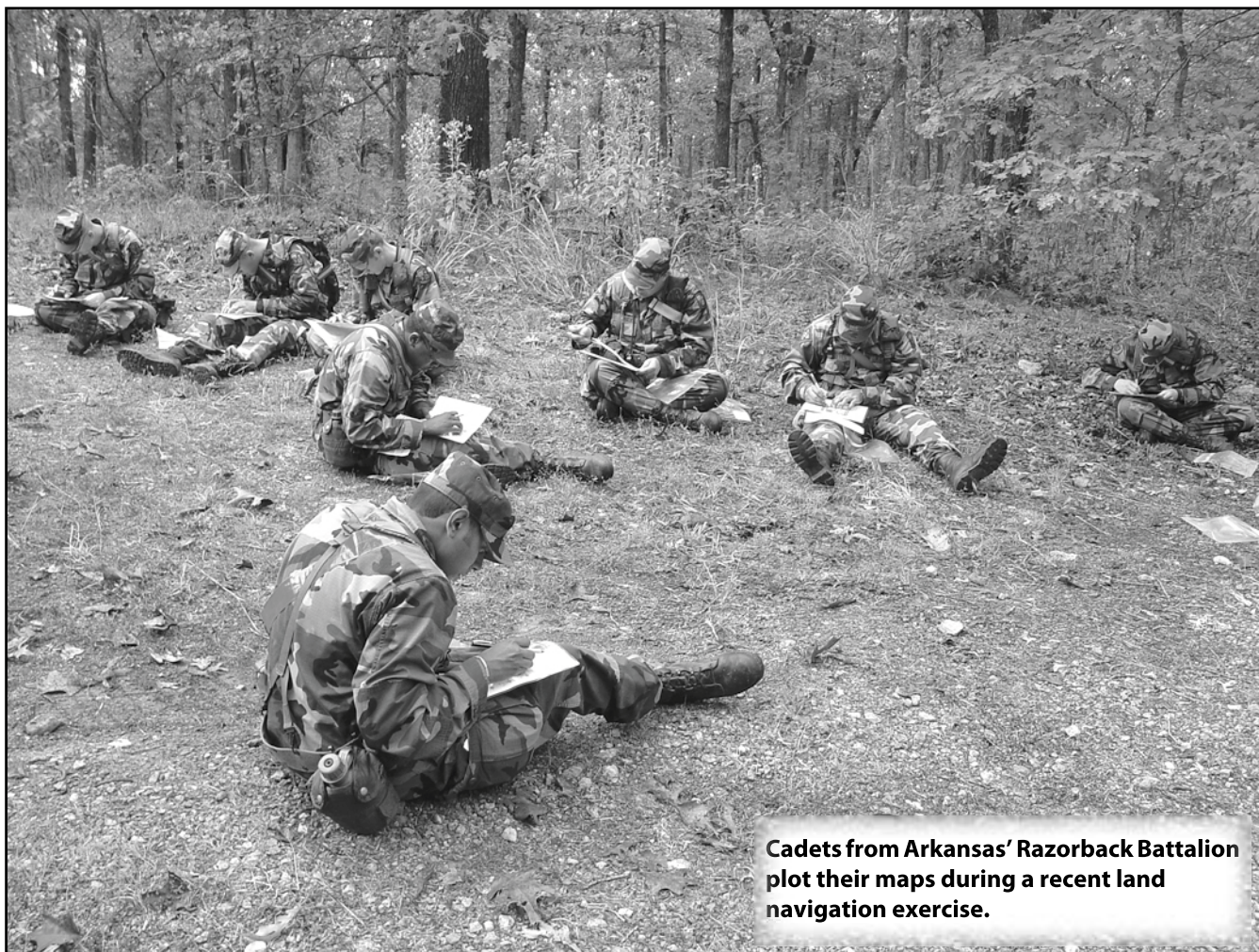
The battalion's PMS, Lt. Col. William Land, was unavailable for the IV Lab, but was volunteered by Prude for the upcoming catheter lab.



U.S. Army photo by Maj. Chuck Adkins

**Nursing student Edi Bickell (left) inserts an IV into the arm of Lt. Col. Rick Mayes, University of Arkansas-Fayetteville assistant professor of military science, as fellow student Leah Miller looks away. The UA cadre volunteered to be live subjects for the nursing students there, and subsequently were able to tell the nurses about the benefits of serving in the Army.**

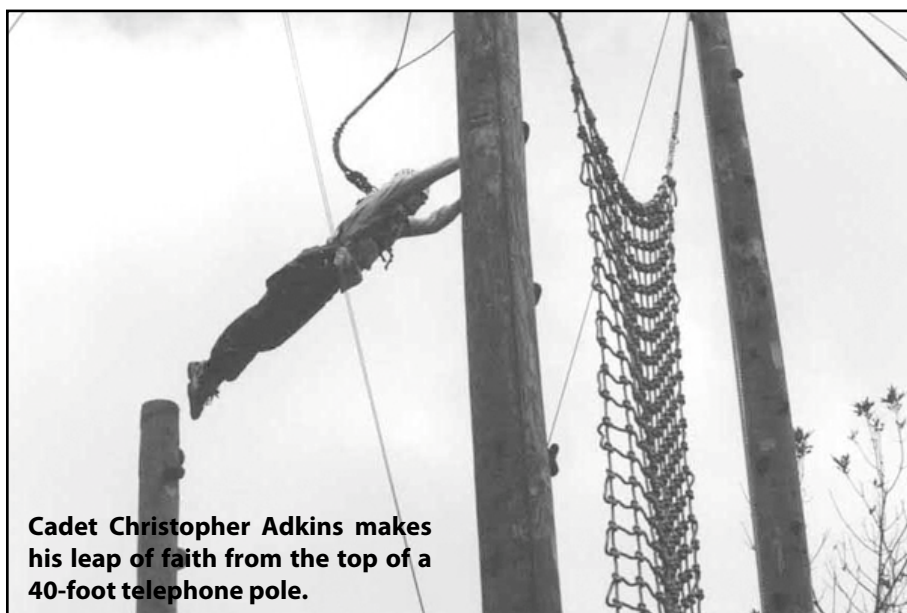




Cadets from Arkansas' Razorback Battalion plot their maps during a recent land navigation exercise.

# FTX

## Razorbacks hone their land nav, ropes skills



Cadet Christopher Adkins makes his leap of faith from the top of a 40-foot telephone pole.



Cadet Jeffrey Campbell leads his team over the low cable obstacle.



Cadet Mina Nazarali overcomes her fear of heights.

**Photos and Story by Maj. Chuck Adkins**  
*University of Arkansas—Fayetteville*

Seventy-five cadets and seven cadre members of the Razorback Brigade recently took leadership and teamwork training to new heights.

The group participated in a two-day FTX consisting of land navigation and a high ropes course. Capt. Sean Newell, assistant professor of military science at Northeastern State University, said the purpose of the FTX was to "improve students' land navigation skills and provide the cadets with an imaginative leadership and teambuilding seminar."

Friday afternoon's training consisted of the land navigation at a landfill in nearby Tontitown, Ark.

Sergeant 1st Class Timothy Reuwer, NSU, said the land navigation exercise is a culmination of classroom and on-campus training.

"Each MSI and II cadet was paired up and assigned lanes to negotiate," Reuwer said. "The MS-IV and MS-

V cadets assisted us in set up, lane monitoring, grading, safety, and if necessary, retraining."

According to Cadet Col. Nathaniel Pote, Razorback Brigade cadet commander, only a few cadets experienced difficulty, but after a review with a more senior and experienced cadet, each was successful on his or her second time out.

On Saturday, the training went to new heights. This phase of the FTX took place at the John Brown University's Soderquist Center for Business Leadership and Ethics. Under the mentorship of Jake Haak, Director of Experimental Learning, the cadets took part in a variety of skill-building and critical thinking exercises that tested mental and physical abilities leading to increased personal confidence and group productivity.

"The Cadets were broken down into four groups and rotated thru various obstacle courses, some like the Alpine Tower and Confidence Leap, as high as 40 feet above ground," said Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Stevens, an MS-I instructor from UA-Fayetteville.

Each course presented the groups with different objectives to be met within a specified period of time. A different cadet was selected as the group leader for each obstacle course and briefed on his/her group's assigned mission. After informing the group of the task and soliciting input, a plan was formulated to assist the group in making its objective. At the end of the each course, the group's performance was evaluated by cadre and JBU ropes course staff on areas such as communicating, planning, developing, decision-making, and executing.

According to MS-I Cadet Steven Shook, the ropes course was "a tremendous exercise in leadership teamwork and confidence."

"I think it brought each cadet to the edge of what they knew they could do, and it pushed them over. If someone had told me I could span a cable thirty feet in the air without falling, I would have laughed him off as marginally insane. However, I learned to trust my teammates, my equipment, and myself and was able to overcome any fears I might have had."



# OU stages urban training to ready cadets for indoor warfare

By Marlena Chavira

Special to the Goldbar Leader

The Oklahoma University Army ROTC implemented its first urban combat training program this year to prepare the cadets for indoor battles.

Capt. David Rollow, assistant professor of military science, said the program focuses on the new types of combat zones the cadets may face in war.

"One of the most important things about these urban operations training is that it's relevant because that's what we're doing out there in the real world," he said. "There is no more battlefield out there in modern times."

Rollow said ROTC trains cadets for combat in war zones that include civilians and media and non-governmental organizations. The cadets are trained to use their own discretion to determine if a person is a threat or a civilian, he said.

"We try to get the cadets to learn that you have to think before you act," he said. "It's one thing to learn how to clear a room, but it's a whole other thing to know when to shoot and when not to shoot, and that's what we're trying to stress."

Jerrami Patterson, cadet battalion commander and management information systems senior, said cadets will work together in teams of four and learn how to scan a room for potential dangers and clear and secure a room. He said this type of training is more representative of war situations they will face when they deploy.

"This is our first combat training geared toward an urban setting," Patterson said. "It's more relevant to the war environment throughout the world. We're not fighting in forests anymore. It's more of going from city to city, and we'll be trying to incorporate that."

Rollow said the cadets' leadership skills will also be tested through the combat training.

"A lot of the stuff that they're actually being graded on is not so much the techniques and tactics of it," he said, "but it's their leadership."

Rollow said that although their leadership skills are key, the cadets' abilities to work as a team is just as important.

"They have to learn to be a follower," Rollow said. "That's probably the most important part of learning to become a leader is knowing how to be a follower."

Patterson said that although cadets have different levels of military training, it is important for all the cadets to receive



Courtesy photo

**Cadet Luke Pratt engages in urban combat training as Cadet Nick Lucas looks on.**

combat training.

"Some of them have military experience, some of them don't," he said. "But the main focus is just trying to get them incorporated into the army and get them prepared. Everyone needs to have a grasp of battle scenarios."

Patterson said he thinks all the cadets, including himself, will use this training at some point in their military careers.

"I honestly feel that everyone will use their training to a degree," he said. "Now does it mean that everyone is going to be over in Iraq or Afghanistan kicking down doors? No. But at the same time, everybody needs the training in battle tactics regardless of what they do in the military."

Trenton Wilhite, management senior and Army ROTC cadet, said he feels his training has given him the skills he will need to be in a combat leadership position.

"It's a good foundation," Wilhite said, "but it's hard because when you actually do get deployed there needs to be a lot of unit cooperation, and that just takes a lot of time and a lot of effort. This provides the foundation of being a leader and part of the team."

However, Wilhite said no amount of training will ever be sufficient when it comes to preparing for battle.

"I don't think you can ever be completely ready [for war], but it's given me a good foundation," he said.

Wilhite said combat training can be a sobering reminder of the war he will likely face, but that he stays focused on his motivations for entering the armed services.

"It comes down to just thinking about the greater good," he said. "I'm doing this as a service to my country. That's why I'm here."

Marlena Chavira is a staff writer for the *Oklahoma Daily*, the independent student voice of the University of Oklahoma.



Courtesy photo

## Teaching Teamwork

Oklahoma State University Cowboy Battalion cadets train local Stillwater, Okla., Cub Scout Den 4 how to fold the American flag. Participating cadets were Casey Toyne, Michael Miller, Amy Dilly, Robert Dixon and Caleb Emde (facing camera in uniform) with scouts Nate, Zac, Jeremy and Wayne.

## Community reaches out

### Gonzaga production pays tribute to sacrifice of service members, families

#### Field Report

Gonzaga University

The university Theatre Arts Program here staged a poignant performance of *Wish I Were There: The Letters Project*, a tribute to the Gonzaga men and women, and all U.S. troops, who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Dr. Kevin Bradshaw, Gonzaga's assistant professor of theatre, wrote and produced the project – a combination of video, music, spoken word and slides – based on material sent to Bradshaw and members of Gonzaga's ROTC program by over two dozen Bulldog Battalion graduates and their families.

The story of Bradshaw's own grandmother and grandfather, their burgeoning relationship interrupted by his military service in Europe, inspired Bradshaw to write about the young men and women, mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers, wives, lovers and children separated by war today, he said.

A narrator served as the "voice" of the presentation, and two student actors shared the reading of letters and other correspondence Bradshaw has received from the war zones. The free production was open to the public "I was honored to give life and emotion to the letters written by GU grads in the service and to Kevin's grandmother from 1915," said Summer Berry, the narrator of the project. "I felt that I found a better understanding of those that choose to serve."

Those who may serve in the future were touched by the production, too.

"The Letters Project featured cadets who were seniors in the program when I entered as a freshman," said Jonathan Peterson, an MS-IV cadet battalion commander. "My freshman year I looked up to many of them as role models and people that I wanted to be like at the end of my four years in college. Now that I see the sacrifices that they are making on a daily basis, it makes me want to be like them even more."

Bradshaw dedicated the performances to his grandparents, and offered a word of thanks to those serving and their families.

The heartfelt tribute paid by the Gonzaga University community serves as an exceptional example of caring and concerned citizens who demonstrate support for the troops in a real, true and inspiring manner.



## Seattle cadet spends semester in France

### Course requirement leads to experience interacting globally

Field Report  
Seattle University

To fulfill a French degree requirement, a courageous cadet from Seattle University embedded herself in the French town of Grenoble for a college semester, and dutifully soaked up local military history, language lessons, and many strange and smelly cheeses.

Cadet Eleanor Baldenweck lived in the center of the town, nestled in the Alps, in a room at the home of her hostess, whom she referred to throughout her time there simply as "Madame Poncet." She was able to come and go as she pleased, but had dinner once each week with her hostess.

Classes at the Université de Grenoble lasted four to five hours per day, Monday through Friday. Waldenbeck said she took full advantage of her weekends off, visiting Paris a few times, a mere 3-hour train ride, and visiting Strasbourg and Dijon.

She also learned about the effects of military history on her temporary environs – particularly two World Wars and the early uprisings of the French Revolution in 1788.

The most obvious piece of history is Grenoble's crumbling Bastille, which, Waldenbeck said, still



Courtesy photo

**A trip abroad leads to life experience – the accumulation of sight, smells and tastes from another culture.**

looms over the city.

"During World War II, these medieval ruins housed the local occupation headquarters – ironic, as the rest of the surrounding mountains cradled the heart of French Resistance. Memorials to lost Resistance fighters, Holocaust victims, and ordinary soldiers from both World Wars are everywhere: the top of mountains, inside churches, as well as in numerous museums."

Classes at the were filled with international students from around the globe, Waldenbeck explained. Japan, Sweden, Argentina, and Germany were among the countries represented. Grenoble is home to more than 50,000 university students.

"I'll admit to being quite pleasantly surprised by the lack of anti-American sentiment," Waldenbaeck said, "not only among the townsfolk, but among my international classmates."

The most common questions about the U.S. were from prospective students curious about the American University system.

"You'd be surprised how many of them have seen Animal House," Waldenbeck added.

"While it pained me to be away from ROTC for so long," Waldenbeck said, "studying abroad was an incredibly rich experience. In an age where every political action is echoed a thousand times over on TV and computer screens, it is more important than ever – especially as a cadet in the U.S. Army -- to understand the real connection our country has to its neighbors in this increasingly shrinking global village."

"Well, that and I really like the cheese!"



Courtesy photo

**Cadet Eleanor Baldenweck, Seattle University, samples the local fare while living for a semester in Grenoble, France. Here Eleanor samples sausage and sauerkraut, or choucroute, from a market stall in Colmar, along the Wine Road south of Strasbourg.**

## 2nd Louie

By Bob Rosenburgh



## Goldbar Leader breaks for Warrior Forge 2005

The *Goldbar Leader* with publication of the April 2005 issue begins its summer hiatus. The next publication of the *Goldbar Leader* is scheduled to occur in October 2005.

During the Leadership Development Assessment Course at Fort Lewis, known as Warrior Forge, the Leader staff publishes the *Warrior Leader* newspaper. The *Warrior Leader* highlights the activities and accomplishments of cadets attending LDAC.

"We look forward to spending the summer supporting Warrior Forge as we do every year," said Jeremy O'Bryan, editor of the Leader newspapers. "We will continue to accept stories and photos from college and high school ROTC programs across Western Region for the October 2005 *Goldbar Leader*."